UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Application Number: 08/990,973
Filing Date: December 15, 1997
Appellant(s): SMITH ET AL.

Christopher D. Guinn
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 9/11/2006 appealing from the Office action

mailed 3/23/2006.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial

proceedings, which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the

Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is

correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

The following is a listing of the evidence (e.g., patents, publications, Official

Notice, and admitted prior art) relied upon in the rejection of claims under appeal.

Welsh (U.S. Patent No. 4,829,558)

Reiter et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,751,578)

Boulton (U.S. Patent No. 4,985,697)

Kirschner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,253,157)

Iwashita (U.S. Patent No. 4,928,168)

Couch et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,752,876)

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 27-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Welsh (U.S. Patent 4,829,558) in view of Reiter et al. (U.S. Patent 4,751,578) in further

view of Boulton (U.S. Patent No. 4,985,697).

Referring to claim 27, Welsh discloses receiving a first user input at a subscriber

terminal indicating a choice for first operation data, wherein the first operation data

includes a plurality of screens (see Column 10, Lines 3-9 for selecting a screen (first

operation data) for display).

Welsh also discloses displaying the first operation data according to the user

input (see Column 10, Lines 9-13 for writing the selected screen to the display), wherein

the first operation data is stored at the subscriber terminal (see Column 10, Line 11 for

the screen data being written to RAM 51).

Welsh also discloses generating a screen of first operation data responsive to a

command at Column 9, Lines 3-9 for a video display generator 55 used to display a

screen and Column 8, Lines 20-23 for selecting between a standard broadcast

television signal and screens.

Welsh also discloses that the screen of operation data is generated by a local

screen character generator at Column 6, Lines 60-66 and Figure 2 for the video display

generator 55 (which receives data from the video RAM 62) being a component in the

home (see also Column 5, Lines 57-59).

Welsh also discloses that the first operation data is stored in at least one of a

screen generator coupled to the system manager and subscriber terminal memory.

Note that at Column 9, Lines 58-61, Welsh discloses that RAM 51 can store up to 600

screens and also at Column 9, Lines 3-4, the local screen generator (video display generator 55) also stores the present screen in RAM 62.

Welsh fails to disclose displaying the video signal and the screen of the first operation data according to the user input, therefore having the functionality of overlaying the operation data onto the video signal.

Reiter discloses overlaying operation data onto a video signal for display to a user (see Column 2, Lines 25-29).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the television display, as taught by Welsh, using the overlay technology, as taught by Reiter, for the purpose of allowing a viewer to continue to view the television program he is currently watching, while overlaying the data of interest to the viewer on the television display (see Column 6, Lines 29-38 of Reiter).

Welsh further discloses saving a screen of the plurality of screens to memory (see Column 10, Lines 3-5 for storing a screen in memory).

Welsh further discloses determining whether the screen of the plurality of screens saved into memory is directly accessible or accessible only through other screens (see Column 10, Lines 19-21 for determining to display other screens that are accessible from another screen according to the responses entered by the viewer).

Welsh also discloses that if the screen of the plurality of screens is saved into memory is only accessible through other screens, then indicating to access the other screen and display the screen on the television (see again Column 10, 19-21 for displaying other screens after a previous screen is displayed).

Welsh however does not teach the memory management method of determining if a screen is part of a group of screens, and only saving the group of screens in RAM so that they may be directly accessed instead of continuously downloading the screens from a remote system.

Boulton discloses receiving screen data and continuously updating the memory depending on the position of the current page being read, where the memory is capable of storing 10-30 pages that are linked to 3-10 pages that have already been viewed (see Column 7, Lines 8-12), thereby teaching that if the screen of the plurality of screens saved into memory is only accessible through other screens, instructing the terminal to indicate that the screen of the plurality of screens saved into memory is not to be deleted from memory.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the functionality of storing screens to RAM, as taught by Welsh and Reiter, using the memory management functionality, as taught by Boulton, for the purpose of providing the user with rapid access to any one of the modality streams without incurring delays, while maximizing the amount of information immediately available in the current modality stream (see Column 8, Lines 14-18 of Boulton).

Referring to claim 28, Welsh discloses storing all screens in RAM 51 and that responding to each screen causes the microprocessor 43 to search for the next screen (see Column 10, Lines 65-67 and Column 11, Lines 1-2 and also note that the first

screen in the series of screens is inherently the "feature start screen" and all screens

after that are the "associated screens"). Welsh also teaches that the user selects the

screen or screens to be displayed (see Column 10, Lines 3-5) and that the screens are

sent from the system manager (central computer 25) and stored prior to their actual use

(see Column 9, Lines 58-61 for the RAM 51 being capable of holding up to 600 screens

and Column 9, Lines 43-45 for sending the screen data all at once).

Referring to claim 29, Welsh discloses receiving a second user input for one of

the associated screen according to a channel map (RAM 51, which discloses the

locations of all the screens) associated with the first operation data (see again Column

10, Lines 66-67 and Column 11, Lines 1-2 for receiving multiple inputs, where each

input is requesting the next screen).

Welsh also discloses transmitting the second user input to the system manager

(see Column 9, Lines 34-37 for transmitting further screen data depending upon the

requirements of the questionnaire being completed).

Welsh also discloses receiving information from the system manager for updating

the associated screen (see Column 9, Lines 42-45 for sending the data to the terminal

and Column 9, Lines 43-52 for storing the screens in RAM).

Welsh also discloses displaying the associated screen including the updated

information in accordance with the second user input (see Column 10, Lines 3-5 for

displaying a stored screen and Column 10, Lines 66-67 and Column 11, Lines 1-2 for

displaying a next screen according to the next user input).

Referring to claim 30, Welsh see rejection of claim 29.

Referring to claim 31, see rejection of claims 27-28 and note that data can also

be stored at the system manager (central computer 25) (see Column 12, Lines 65-66).

Further note that the claim recites "*the system manager is further configured to indicate*

that the screen". The examiner notes that this limitation is broad, and that transmitting

the screens to the viewer's terminal and applying the memory management method of

Boulton clearly <u>provides an indication</u> to not delete the screen from memory.

Referring to claim 32, see rejection of claim 29.

3.   Claims 33, 39-40, and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Welsh (U.S. Patent No. 4,829,558) in view of Kirschner et al. (U.S.

Patent No. 4,253,157) in further view of Boulton (U.S. Patent No. 4,985,697).

Referring to claim 33, Welsh discloses generating at the premises of a subscriber

a screen for selecting services (see Column 4, Lines 53-56 for generating (at an FM

station) and displaying (on a television) screens and Column 4, Lines 42-46 for the

system providing home shopping services), wherein the screen is one of a plurality of

screens (see Column 10, Lines 66-67 and Column 11, Lines 1-2), and wherein the

services for selection are offered by an interactive entertainment system (see FM

broadcast station 5 in Figure 1, which provides the screen data to the terminals at

Column 4, Lines 53-56). The examiner notes that since the FM broadcast station 5 in

Figure 1 is sending the interactive screens (users can respond to the screens) to the

users in there homes, the FM broadcast station 5 is therefore, an interactive

entertainment system. Also note Column 9, Lines 34-37 for the central computer 25

recording responses from the guest and sending additional screen data if needed,

therefore the subscriber can also offer additional services.

Welsh also discloses providing a terminal (see Figures 2-3), the terminal adapted

to receiver input from a guest and adapted to provide the screen to a display device

(see Column 5, Lines 26-30 for receiving input from a guest and Column 10, Lines 3-15

for the video display generator 55 displaying the screen to the display).

Welsh also discloses receiving a selection from a guest (see Column 9, Lines 20-

24).

Although Welsh discloses home shopping services and receiving screens to

allow users to make selections and that the subscriber responds to a questionnaire at

Column 11, Lines 5-25, which is used by the central computer, thereby providing the

service of a viewer response system in response to the screen, which relates to

information about services (response system) provided by the subscriber (by answering

the questions), Welsh fails to specifically disclose a menu for selecting services from an

interactive system.

Kirschner discloses that screens can contain menus for selecting from different

interactive services (see Column 5, Lines 10-64 for examples of two such menus).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of

ordinary skill in the art, to modify the screens of Welsh, utilizing the menus of Kirschner

for the purpose of providing an organized selection system for the user to access the

proper services in a more efficient manner.

Welsh further discloses saving a screen of the plurality of screens to memory

(see Column 10, Lines 3-5 for storing a screen in memory).

Welsh further discloses determining whether the screen of the plurality of

screens saved into memory is directly accessible or accessible only through other

screens (see Column 10, Lines 19-21 for determining to display other screens that are

accessible from another screen according to the responses entered by the viewer).

Welsh also discloses that if the screen of the plurality of screens is saved into

memory is only accessible through other screens, then indicating to access the other

screen and display the screen on the television (see again Column 10, 19-21 for

displaying other screens after a previous screen is displayed).

Welsh however does not teach the memory management method of determining

if a screen is part of a group of screens, and only saving the group of screens in RAM

so that they may be directly accessed instead of continuously downloading the screens

from a remote system.

Boulton discloses receiving screen data and continuously updating the memory

depending on the position of the current page being read, where the memory is capable

of storing 10-30 pages that are linked to 3-10 pages that have already been viewed (see

Column 7, Lines 8-12), thereby teaching that if the screen of the plurality of screens

saved into memory is only accessible through other screens, instructing the terminal to

indicate that the screen of the plurality of screens saved into memory is <u>not</u> to be deleted from memory.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the functionality of storing screens to RAM, as taught by Welsh and Reiter, using the memory management functionality, as taught by Boulton, for the purpose of providing the user with rapid access to any one of the modality streams without incurring delays, while maximizing the amount of information immediately available in the current modality stream (see Column 8, Lines 14-18 of Boulton).

Claim 39 corresponds to claim 33, where Welsh discloses that screens are generated by a video display generator 55 in Figure 3 (also note Column 9, Lines 3-9).

Claim 40 corresponds to claim 33, where Welsh discloses associating a given screen of the menu with a given television channel (see Column 10, Lines 28-38 and note that Kirschner is used to teach a menu screen). Note that the FM receiver 33 "tunes" to a given frequency transmitted over the television network, therefore if a screen is displayed, it is supplied from a specific television channel frequency.

Welsh also discloses outputting the given screen from the terminal such that the screen is displayable on a television tuned to the given television channel (see Column 10, Lines 62-64).

Referring to claim 43, see rejection of claim 33 where both Welsh and Kirschner disclose offering services by the subscriber. The examiner notes that the subscriber responds to a questionnaire at Column 11, Lines 5-25, which is used by the central computer. Therefore the subscriber provides the service of a viewer response system in response to the screen, which relates to information about services (response system) provided by the subscriber (by answering the questions).

4.   Claim 46 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Welsh (U.S. Patent No. 4,829,558) in view of Kirschner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,253,157) in further view of Boulton (U.S. Patent No. 4,985,697) in further view of Reiter (U.S. Patent No. 4,751,578).

Claim 46 corresponds to claim 33, where Welsh teaches the additional limitations of receiving a video signal (see Column 5, Lines 4-7), outputting the video signal such that the video signal is displayable on a television (see Column 8, Lines 20-24), and outputting the screen such that the screen is displayable on a television (see Column 8, Lines 20-24).

However, Welsh, Kirschner and Boulton fail to teach the additional limitation of superimposing the screen over the video signal.

Reiter discloses overlaying operation data onto a video signal for display to a user (see Column 2, Lines 25-29).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the television display, as taught by Welsh, Kirschner

and Boulton, using the overlay technology, as taught by Reiter, for the purpose of

allowing a viewer to continue to view the television program he is currently watching,

while overlaying the data of interest to the viewer on the television display (see Column

6, Lines 29-38 of Reiter).

5.   Claims 34-36, 38, 41, 44-45 and 47-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Welsh (U.S. Patent No. 4,829,558) in view of Kirschner et al.

(U.S. Patent No. 4,253,157) in further view of Boulton (U.S. Patent No. 4,985,697) in

further view of Iwashita (U.S. Patent No. 4,928,168).

Referring to claim 34, Welsh, Kirschner and Boulton disclose all of the limitations

in claim 33, but fail to disclose a screen that includes charges owed by the guest.

Iwashita discloses a screen that displays the charges owed by a guest (see Figure 3).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of

ordinary skill in the art to modify the one of the screens presented to the guest, as

taught by Welsh, Kirschner and Boulton, using the charges owed screen in Figure 3 of

Iwashita, for the purpose of providing proper payment information to the user before

he/she checks out of the hotel, therefore providing a convenient service to the guest

(see Column 5, Lines 52-57 of Iwashita).

Claim 35 corresponds to claim 34, where Iwashita also teaches the additional

limitation of the charges include charges for services offered by the interactive

entertainment system (note in Figure 3 and Column 5, Lines 52-57 disclose that

charges include a bill for pay television programs that have been viewed).

Claim 36 corresponds to claim 34, where Iwashita also teaches the additional

limitation of the subscriber providing room service to guests, and the charges include

charges for room services (note that the pay television channels are provided to a guest

at a subscriber location (his/her room), therefore see the rejection of claim 35).

Claim 38 corresponds to claim 33, where Kirschner, Welsh and Boulton teach

transmitting the screen downstream through a local area network to the terminal (see

Column 4, Lines 53-59 of Welsh and Column 4, Lines 62-64 of Kirschner). Kirschner,

Welsh and Boulton also teach a system manager (see element 25 in Figure 1 of Welsh

and element 20 in Figure 1 of Kirschner), but fail to disclose that the system manager is

located at the premises of the subscriber and adapted to control billing of the guest.

Iwashita discloses a central computer 3 (in a hotel system, which is therefore at the

subscriber's premises) used to control billing of the guest (see Column 5, Lines 13-65

and Figure 3).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious of ordinary skill

in the art to modify the system of Welsh, Kirschner and Boulton, using the system

manager (central computer 3) in Figure 1 that controls billing of a guest, as taught by

Iwashita, for the purpose of providing proper payment information to the user before

he/she checks out of the hotel, therefore providing a convenient service to the guest

(see Column 5, Lines 52-57 of Iwashita).

Referring to claims 41, see rejection of claim 36.

Referring to claim 44, see rejection of claim 33 and 38, and also note that Welsh

discloses retrieving additional (second, third or fourth, etc.) screen data from the central

computer 25 (see Column 9, Lines 34-37 and Column 10, Lines 66-67 and Column 11, Lines 1-2). Also note that at Column 9, Lines 60-61 screens are only stored when necessary.

Claim 45 corresponds to claim 44, see rejection of claim 44 and again note that Welsh discloses that the central computer 25 can send additional data upon reading responses from the guest (see Column 9, Lines 34-37). Also note Column 12, Lines 4-8 for transmitting up to date screen data.

Referring to claim 47, see rejection of claim 33, 38 and 43.

Referring to claim 48, see rejection of claim 39.

Referring to claims 49-50, see the rejection of claims 44 and 45 for Welsh disclosing accessing additional screen.

Referring to claims 51-52, see rejection of claims 36-37, respectively.

6.   Claims 37 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Welsh (U.S. Patent No. 4,829,558) in view of Kirschner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,253,157) in further view of Boulton (U.S. Patent No. 4,985,697) in further view of Couch et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,752,876).

Claim 37 corresponds to claim 33, where Kirschner, Welsh and Boulton fail to specifically disclose a screen for checking out of the subscriber premises (room) using the terminal.

Couch discloses an automated check-out service at the subscriber's premises

(the lodging facility) (see Column 3, Lines 30-33 and Column 6, Lines 5-19 and Figure

5).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the

screens provided by Welsh, Kirschner and Boulton, using the automated check-out

system, as taught by Couch, for the purpose of reducing labor cost for the lodging

facility and the possibility for human mistake (see Column 3, Lines 45-48 of Couch).

Referring to claim 42, see the rejection of claim 37.

7.   Claims 53-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Welsh (U.S. Patent No. 4,829,558) in view of Boulton (U.S. Patent No. 4,985,697).

Referring to claim 53, Welsh discloses providing a plurality of two-way terminals

(see Figure 1 for homes 9, which all contain terminal 13).

Welsh also discloses generating at the premises of a subscriber a screen for

display on a television, wherein the screen relates to information about services

provided by the subscriber of the interactive entertainment system (see Column 4, Lines

53-56 for generating (at an FM station) and displaying (on a television) screens and

Column 4, Lines 42-46 for the system providing home shopping services), and wherein

the services for selection are offered by an interactive entertainment system (see FM

broadcast station 5 in Figure 1, which provides the screen data to the terminals at

Column 4, Lines 53-56). The examiner notes that since the FM broadcast station 5 in

Figure 1 is sending the interactive screens (users can respond to the screens) to the

users in there homes, the FM broadcast station 5 is therefore, an interactive

entertainment system.

Welsh also discloses receiving a selection from a guest (see Column 9, Lines 20-

24).

The examiner notes that the subscriber responds to a questionnaire at Column

11, Lines 5-25, which is used by the central computer. Therefore the subscriber

provides the service of a viewer response system in response to the screen, which

relates to information about services (response system) provided by the subscriber (by

answering the questions).

Welsh further discloses saving a screen of the plurality of screens to memory

(see Column 10, Lines 3-5 for storing a screen in memory).

Welsh further discloses determining whether the screen of the plurality of

screens saved into memory is directly accessible or accessible only through other

screens (see Column 10, Lines 19-21 for determining to display other screens that are

accessible from another screen according to the responses entered by the viewer).

Welsh also discloses that if the screen of the plurality of screens is saved into

memory is only accessible through other screens, then indicating to access the other

screen and display the screen on the television (see again Column 10, 19-21 for

displaying other screens after a previous screen is displayed).

Welsh however does not teach the memory management method of determining

if a screen is part of a group of screens, and only saving the group of screens in RAM

so that they may be directly accessed instead of continuously downloading the screens from a remote system.

Boulton discloses receiving screen data and continuously updating the memory depending on the position of the current page being read, where the memory is capable of storing 10-30 pages that are linked to 3-10 pages that have already been viewed (see Column 7, Lines 8-12), thereby teaching that if the screen of the plurality of screens saved into memory is only accessible through other screens, instructing the terminal to indicate that the screen of the plurality of screens saved into memory is not to be deleted from memory.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the functionality of storing screens to RAM, as taught by Welsh and Reiter, using the memory management functionality, as taught by Boulton, for the purpose of providing the user with rapid access to any one of the modality streams without incurring delays, while maximizing the amount of information immediately available in the current modality stream (see Column 8, Lines 14-18 of Boulton).

Referring to claim 54, see rejection of claim 53 and note that Welsh discloses receiving content (television programs) as well as screens (see Column 8, Lines 20-24).

(10) Response to Argument

Applicant's only provides two arguments for each independent claim in the instant application. The first titled, "**Response to Rejection in the Final Office Action**

of December 28, 2005" and the second titled, "**Response to Advisory Action of December 28, 2005**". Although a minor issue, the examiner notes that the Advisory Action is dated March 23, 2006.

(i) Response to Rejection in the Final Office Action of December 28, 2005

Applicant argues that references used to reject claim 27 (and all of the other remaining claim limitations) fails to teach, "**if the screen of the plurality of screens saved into memory is only accessible through other screens, indicating that the screen of the plurality of screens saved into memory is not to be deleted from memory**". Applicant continues to quote the previous Office Action and the section were Boulton teaches this limitation. The Applicant further states a specific example (see page 8 of the Appeal Brief), which specifies one specific example that the broad claim limitations could oblige and would not be taught by the combination of references. Applicant states that, "*If a reader using the system of Boulton is on page 350, for example, and wants to access page 4, the system of Boulton will not have indicated that page 4, a page that is not directly accessible, is not to be deleted from memory. According to Boulton, when a reader is on page 350, page 4 will have been deleted to maximize the use of RAM*". The examiner agrees that this situation provides an amount of pages that are outside the bounds of what Boulton's RAM can store, however, this degree of storage space is not stated in any portion of the claim (or any of the claims in the entire instant application).

In regards to the interpretation of claim, the examiner notes that in relation to the feature presented in Applicant's specification (see pages 13-14 of the specification in the instant application), nowhere do the claims state a flag or cannibal bit used to specify which screens are designated to be stored into memory and which ones should be deleted. Instead Applicant has broadly claimed this feature in a way that can be interpreted in many different instances.

For example, note the previous claim limitation, which states, "***determining whether the screen of the plurality of screens saved into memory is directly accessible or accessible only through other screens***". The examiner notes that this claim limitation is broad and that Welsh clearly teaches determining if the screen is accessible only through other screens (see Column 10, Lines 19-21 for determining to display other screens that are accessible from another screen according to the responses entered by the viewer and Column 10, Lines 39-47 and Column 10, Line 65 through Column 11, Line 4). The examiner further notes that the claim limitation "***accessible only through other screens***", although in the alternative form and opposite from directly accessible, does not teach "indirectly" or "not directly", as stated by the Applicant on Page 8 of the Appeal Brief. The claim limitation is broad enough to encompass if one screen was next to another, in other words, if screen B is accessible through adjacent screen A, then screen B is ***accessible only through other screens***, because screen B could not be accessed unless screen A is accessed first.

Therefore, Welsh also discloses, "***if the screen of the plurality of screens saved into memory is only accessible through other screens***" (see again Column

10, Lines 19-21, Column 10, Lines 39-47 and Column 10, Line 65 through Column 11,

Line 4 of Welsh and Column 7, Lines 8-12 of Boulton). However, Welsh fails to

disclose, "***indicating that the screen of the plurality of screens saved into memory***

is not to be deleted from memory". Again, as discussed in the previous Office Action,

Boulton (at Column 7, Lines 8-12) discloses continually updating the RAM so that 10-30

page equivalents of subsequent text pages are available along with 3-10 pages of text

already viewed, therefore if the selected screen (of a plurality of screens) stored in the

RAM is only accessible through other screens (one screen after the other), Boulton

clearly indicates (by continually updating) that the screen of the plurality of screens

saved into memory (one of the previous screens viewed in RAM) is not to be deleted

from memory (saved so that a user can quickly view a previously viewed or future

page). Further note the previous Office Action for the proper motivation taught by

Boulton for providing such a feature to references.

(i) Response to Rejection in the Advisory Action of March 23, 2006

        Applicant argues, "*The Advisory Action alleges that "[a]s stated on Page 8 of the*

previous Office Action, Welsh is used to teach this limitation, not Boulton." See Advisory

Action, p. 2. However, Applicant respectfully submits that the previous Office Action

uses Boulton to allegedly teach this limitation. See Office Action, pp. 4-5, 9 and 16.

        As noted above, because of the broad nature of the claim limitation, "***accessible***

only through other screens" that both Welsh (at Column 10, Lines 19-21, Column 10,

Lines 39-47 and Column 10, Line 65 through Column 11, Line 4) and Boulton (at

Column 7, Lines 8-12) both teach this limitation by teaching that screens that are

adjacent to one other can be accessed one after the other. The Advisory Action simply

made clear what was stated in the previous Final Office Action and the examiner did not

intend to imply that only Boulton or Welsh teach this limitation. As stated above,

nowhere does the claim require an indirect linking between pages 4 and 350, as stated

by Applicant of Page 8 of the Appeal Brief.

Argument regarding the remaining independent claims

For the remaining argues regarding independent claims 31, 33, 47 and 53-54,

see the rebuttal above.

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the

Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Salce

JASON SALCE
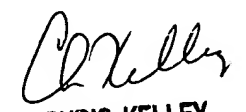PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER

October 3, 2005

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